

REMARKS

The Examining Attorney rejected Claims 1 and 2 as being indefinite under 35 U.S.C. 112. These claims have been amended to provide the antecedent basis.

The Examining Attorney has rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102 all claims as being anticipated by Hillman (patent no. 6,522,265). The current amendment amends all non-cancelled claims to include elements not describe in the Hillman reference. Claims 9 and 12-19 have been cancelled.

The present invention conserves battery life by providing criteria and corresponding reporting intervals that can be altered remotely. It may be desired to report status at frequent intervals if an external power supply is available. If an external power supply is not available, the frequency desired for reporting is generally dramatically less often. Furthermore, in order to conserve wireless resources, status updates may only be desired upon certain criteria being met. For example, in order to track cargo on a cross continental train, a transmittal of the status may be desired only upon entering or leaving a geographical zone. Yet, if the unit is traveling during off hours, this operation may indicate theft and it will be desired to have rapid updates even if no external power supply is available or the unit has not left a certain geographical zone. Accordingly, a plurality of criteria with each criterion having its own associated report interval can be necessary. Also, it is often desired to be able to change either the reporting interval or the criterion at any time. Consequently, this invention stores in memory a profile of the criterions and reporting intervals that can be altered by remote commands.

Conversely, *Hillman* describes conservation of battery life, but is not concerned with the conservation of wireless resources. Battery life is conserved by placing the unit in a sleep mode when it is not physically moving. Column 10 lines 9-11. At predetermined times (column 10 lines 5-27) or possibly upon a triggering event (column 13 line 62-67 thru column 14 lines 1-12), the cited system will exit sleep mode at which time the unit can transmit or receive data. The sleep time may have an increasing wake-up window to ensure that the base unit can contact the mobile unit if the time synchronization is adrift. Column 18 lines 30-58. However, since *Hillman* is not concerned with conserving wireless resources, during normal operations the transmission time is constant such as every 1.8 seconds as stated in column 17 lines 1-25. *Hillman* does not contemplate normal differing reporting intervals based upon a plurality of

conditions in order to conserve wireless resources and save the associated costs. Furthermore, *Hillman* makes no mention that any transmission criterion can be changed by remote commands.

Therefore, all claims as amended now include the following limitation:

based upon a plurality of programmable criteria wherein the programmable criteria and associated report intervals are alterable via remote commands;

The limitation of altering the reporting criteria or the associated reporting interval by remote commands is not described in the *Hillman* reference. Furthermore, *Hillman* does not contemplate conserving wireless resources by having differing reporting intervals based upon a plurality of criteria. As shown, these limitations are not disclosed, taught or suggested by *Hillman* and should render the amended claims allowable.

The foregoing is submitted as a complete response to the Office Action mailed December 15, 2003. As shown above, the claim, as amended, is patentable over the cited references and in condition for allowance. The Applicant therefore requests entry of the preceding Amendment and issuance of a Notice of Allowance. Please call Brian Anderson at (404) 504-7748 if there are any further matters that can be addressed by an Examiner's Amendment prior to issuance of a Notice of Allowance.

Respectfully submitted,



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